4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on National Evaluation Capacities October 26-30, 2015 Bangkok, Thailand

#### **Vinod Thomas**

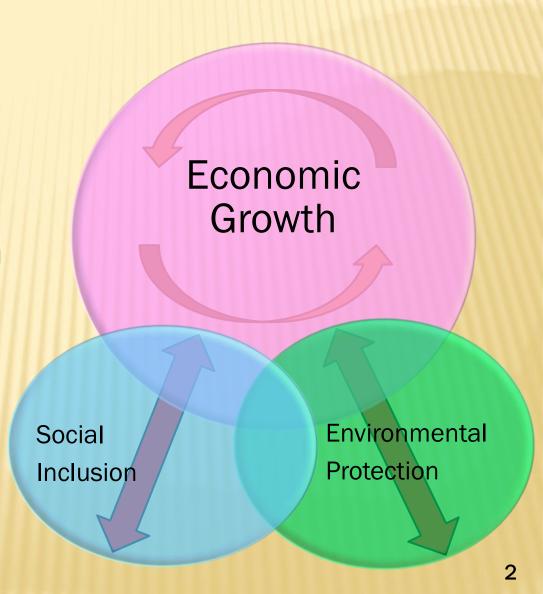
Director General, Independent Evaluation Asian Development Bank

# EVALUATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

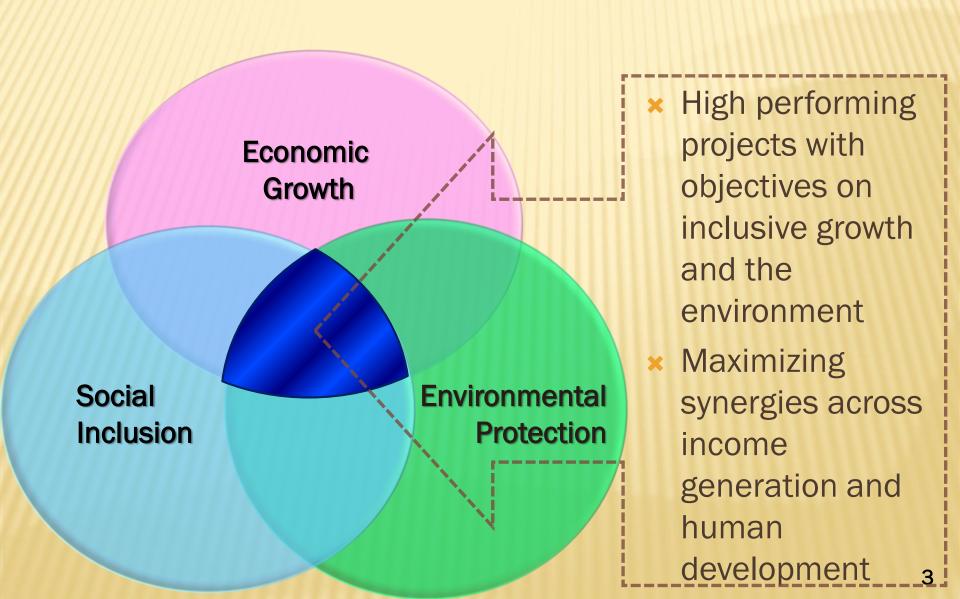


#### **EVALUATION CHALLENGE**

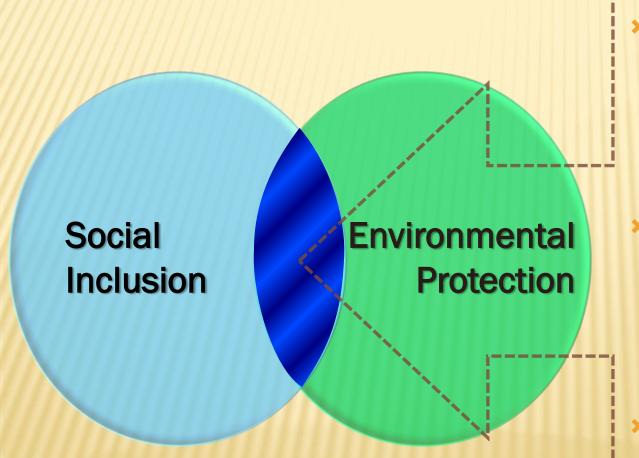
- Investments have focused on growth
- But inequality, poverty, environmental, climate change threaten growth
- So evaluation must integrate social and environmental issues when assessing growth



# GROWTH, INCLUSION, SUSTAINABILITY



## SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL LINKS



- × 70-75% of rural poor depend on natural resources and ecosystems services
- Unsustainable use of the environment reduces the returns to natural capital
- The poor are most vulnerable to natural disasters

# MAKING GROWTH INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE

More & Better Growth

High growth

Not any,
but quality growth

Access to opportunities: health, education, social protection



quality
Low carbon, resource
management,
safeguards

5

#### SOCIAL AND NATURAL CAPITAL

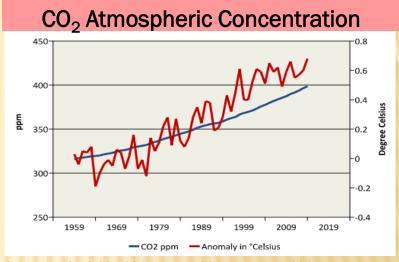
- CCT in the Philippines, impact evaluation, school enrollment, maternal and child health services
- Regional ecosystems and biodiversity in GMS corridor, Coral Triangle and Borneo





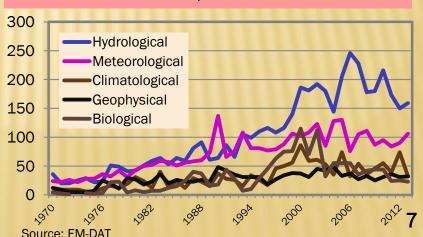
#### MAKING GROWTH MORE SUSTAINABLE

- Valuing and investing in natural capital
- Environmental care in transport and energy
- Climate adaptation and mitigation
- Disaster prevention and resilience



Source: NASA GISS (2015), Tans (2015), Keeling (2015).

## Total Number of Natural Disasters Worldwide, 1970-2014



#### DYNAMICS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

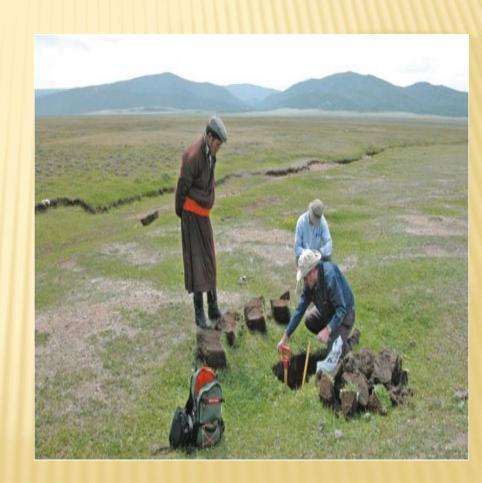


#### METHODS FOR ASSESSING SUSTAINABILITY

- Impact Evaluation: examples of social protection, forest protection, SMEs
- Cost-benefit analysis: market prices; externalities
- Green accounting: unintended effects; resource accounting; ecological footprint
- Social calculus: direct and indirect effects; participation
- Safeguards and do no harm

## SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

- Unsustainable use of natural resources
- Deforestation and biodiversity loss
- Remote sensing in M&E in the management of peatlands of Mongolia



#### SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

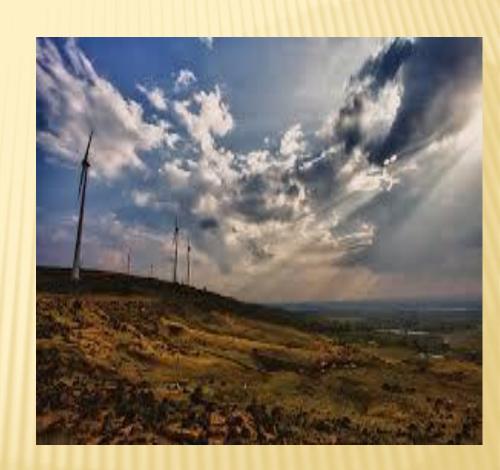
- Bus Rapid Transit, China urban mass transport incorporating Clean Development Mechanism
- Encouraging commuters to use public transportation
- Reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by 12,000 tons in the first nine months of operations





#### SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

- Slash fossil fuel subsidies, promote renewable
- Knowledge to enable green transformation
- Innovative financial products
- Cost-benefit analysis in evaluation



#### SAFEGUARDS

- Cost of having safeguards3-4% of project cost
- Benefits of having safeguards exceed their cost by a sizable margin
- Enhancing cost-benefit analysis in evaluation
  - + Valuation of environment, ecosystem services and social impacts





#### DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

#### Bangladesh: Impact of similar cyclones

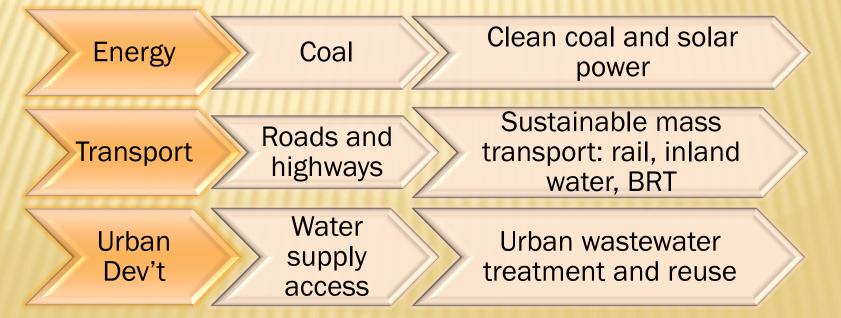
	1970	1991	1997	2007
Cyclone (Scale)	<b>Bhola</b> (205 kph)	Bangladesh (260 kph)	Bravo One (225 kph)	<b>Sidr</b> (260 kph)
Deaths	300,000	138, 000	410	4,000
Damage	\$ 86.4 m	\$ 1.8 b	\$ 1.5 b	\$ 1.7 b

#### Disaster Risk Reduction Investments, Bangladesh:

\$10 billion for flood/coastal management in 35 years

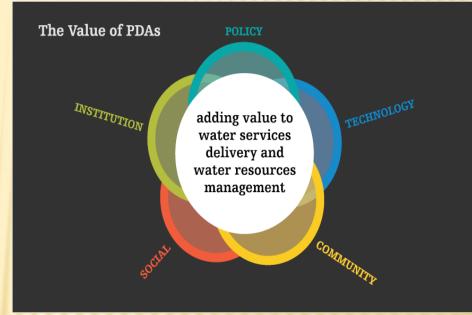
# CHINA: PAST INSUFFICIENT GUIDE TO FUTURE

Period	Share of energy, transport, urban	Success rate	Share of projects with environment
1998 – 2005	93%	97%	<50%
2006 – 2013	81%	100%	>90%



#### PILOT AND DEMONSTRATION ACTIVITIES

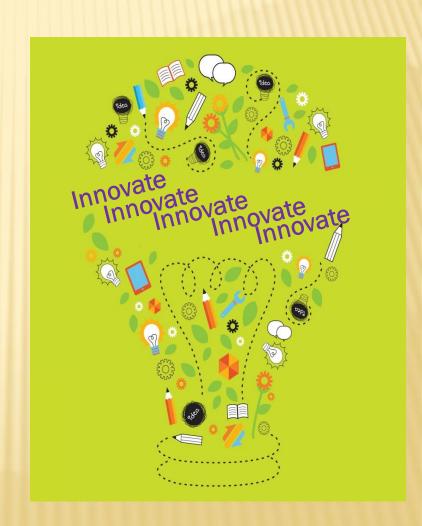
- Small grant program for innovation in the water sector
- Rapid response, local solutions, results on the ground
- Areas on testing technology (urban sanitation solutions), enhancing policy (water tariffs; payment of ecosystem services), empowerment (gender equality in irrigation)





## INNOVATION, REPLICATION AND SCALE

- Evaluation must not favor risk aversion
- Motivate risk and innovation
- Replication and scaling-up
- Identify, analyze and scale-up successful interventions



#### DEVELOPING EVALUATION CAPACITY

- Learning events and knowledge exchange on sustainability
- Impact evaluation to go beyond social areas to sustainability questions
- Evaluation development such as SHIPDET, CLEAR, 3ie, IDEAS, UNEG, ECG, NEC



# THANK YOU!



**Evaluation for Better Results 2014:** 

http://www.adb.org/publications/evaluation-better-results



Inclusion, Resilience, Change: ADB's Strategy 2020 at

Mid-Term: http://bit.ly/irc-strategy2020



ADB's Support for Inclusive Growth:

http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/evaluation-document/89401/files/ces-safeguards.pdf



Learning Lessons: ADB's Safeguards Policy:

http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/LL-safeguards.pdf



Infrastructure lending must be based on environmental and social safeguards: <a href="http://bit.ly/safeguards-brookings">http://bit.ly/safeguards-brookings</a>

# Follow Us

# THANK YOU!



evaluation@adb.org



www.adb.org/evaluation



https://www.facebook.com/adbevaluation



https://twitter.com/adbevaluation



http://www.youtube.com/evaluationatadb



http://www.scribd.com/adbevaluation/



http://www.soundcloud.com/adbevaluation/